

USA threatens Nicaragua with armed intervention

Managua. The unshakable resolve of the Nicaraguan people to take up arms for the freedom and independence of their country is the main obstacle blocking the aggressive plans of the Reagan administration in Central America, said the Nicaraguan Defence Minister, Humberto Ortega, member of the National Leadership of the Sandinista National Liberation Front. Addressing a mass rally in the town of Estelí dedicated to the fourth anniversary since the establishment of the Sandinista people's militia, he stressed that

the United States threatens to invade Nicaragua in the same way as it did to Grenada. Washington has inundated neighbouring Honduras with thousands of Marines, surrounded Nicaragua with warships and has even devised a detailed plan for the capture of Managua by landing American paratroopers. The White House continues to bring its political and economic pressure to bear against the Nicaraguan revolution in the hope of breaking down the resolve of the people of the republic.

FOR PEACE IN SPACE

New York. Alarm at the growing possibility that the nuclear arms race will spill over into outer space has been expressed by delegates attending a session of the UN Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at the UN Headquarters here.

Since the session began, two approaches have emerged designed to prevent the militarization of outer space. The socialist and most of the developing countries are in favour of ensuring peaceful cooperation. The United States, on its part, has tried to block the debate. The American delegate maintained that the

Subcommittee was not suitable for the discussion of the problem, and that it should be a subject for discussion at the UN Disarmament Conference in Geneva.

In his speech, the Soviet representative stressed that even at Geneva, efforts to resolve the issue are being blocked under various pretexts by those who oppose its discussion in the Subcommittee. It is not just the question of a venue but simply an unwillingness to solve the problem. This becomes all the more obvious if we recall that a short while ago the United States adopted a large-scale long-term programme for designing new types and systems of weapons for deployment in space.

Casey gets away with it

Washington. The Federal Bureau of Investigation has announced that the important government papers which were stolen from the White House by Reagan's aides in 1980 bore no detectable fingerprints of the present director of the Central Intelligence Agency, William Casey, through whom the papers are alleged to have passed.

This declaration has caused surprise among many Americans.

During the investigation the head of the White House staff,

James A. Baker said that he had received the stolen documents from William Casey himself. One of the "moles" in the Carter camp admitted that he had personally given them to the present head of the CIA.

The FBI's "inability" to expose Casey has a simple explanation. On orders from the White House, the FBI is now trying to hush up a major political scandal which would certainly not suit the President who is seeking re-election.



Pre-election masquerade.

Drawing by Yuri Ivanov

Is it still a case of two Chinas?

Washington. President Reagan has addressed a specially arranged meeting with Americans of Asiatic descent. In the American capital, the meeting is being linked with Reagan's prospects in the run-up to the elections. Among other things, the incumbent takes into account the large pro-Taiwan lobby in the United States. In his speech he spoke at length about the problem of relations between the United States and Taiwan. In fact, he again spoke in favour of a continued "two Chinas" policy by the United States.

He declared that his administration

intended to honour all obligations towards Taiwan and provide support for its needs and necessities.

Reagan again declared that at present the United States must develop close economic and cultural links with Taiwan. The course towards closer relations with the Chinese People's Republic does not mean any abandonment of the administration in Taipei, he declared.

In local circles it is said that in his speech, Reagan put American relations with Taiwan and China on the same level, by describing them as "old" and "new" friends.

Howard Parsons praises Soviet peace policy

New York. Every expert on Soviet foreign policy agrees that the country is fully aware of the threat of nuclear war hanging over mankind and it is ready to take steps to prevent it.

Howard Parsons, a prominent American scientist, public figure who is member of the Presidium of the UN Peace Council and representative of the Council at the Nations. Among other things, Mr Howard said this can be seen from such Soviet initiatives approved by the General Assembly as the resolution condemning nuclear armaments and a resolution preventing a nuclear arms race in space.

These major documents, the firm resolve of the Soviet Union to preserve and consolidate peace and to foil the administration's militarist policies which are pushing mankind to the brink of a nuclear abyss, said.

Japanese protest against military spending

Tokyo. "Stop the arms race," "Reduce military spending," "More money for social security and education!" These were demands made by demonstrators who marched through the streets of Tokyo and other cities in Japan in mass demonstrations staged by the Japan's executive committee of the popular mass movements. The marchers expressed their resolute protest against Washington administration's intention to place nuclear missiles on ships of the Pacific fleet which make regular calls at Japanese ports.

Guyana's position

Georgetown. Guyana, like those states who support peace and desire an end to the arms race, a ban on nuclear arms, universal and complete disarmament, said Guyana's President Linden Forbes Sampson Burnham when addressing a rally dedicated to Republic Day.

The president resolutely condemned the continuing attempts by imperialist circles and reactionaries to intimidate the people of the republic into departing from the road they have chosen. Our aim is to build a society free from exploitation and oppression, he stressed.

In defiance of Turkey's interests

Istanbul. The Turkish public is increasingly alarmed at the attempts the US administration has been making to involve Turkey still further into its adventurous incursions into the Middle East.

Regarding this a very candid remark was made by NATO's former Supreme Allied Commander in Europe Alexander Haig who said in an interview to the Turkish newspaper "Gunaydin" that the size of the American aid to Turkey must be directly dependent on her policy and role in the region.

Commenting on this statement, the Turkish statesman, I. S. Caglayanoglu, who for a long time held the post of Foreign Minister, stressed that special privileges and military installations which are granted to the United States may present an additional danger to the republic's national interests. Turkey's present-day foreign policy must be based on the principles of equality and non-interference into the domestic affairs of other states, he says, writing in the Istanbul weekly "Yanki".



Lebanon. More and more details of the Lebanese tragedy are emerging. In the mountain village of Kfar-Matta the bodies of 117 brutally murdered old people, women and children have been found. They had been left unburied (in the photo).

This is not the first blood-curdling crime to take place on Lebanese soil. Such mass crimes have been made possible by Israeli aggression and American intervention in Lebanon which have led to an abrupt destabilization of the situation throughout the country.

RESPONSE

Who needs 'yellow rain'?

According to the US Department of State the USSR and its allies used "yellow rain" poison in Laos and Kampuchea and they continue their barrage of accusations by bringing up "material evidence".

The Department has made such a big thing of it that it causes suspicion even among Americans. The authoritative Chemical and Engineering News magazine decided to look into the claim. They sent samples of "yellow rain" to noted scientists in the USA and Western Europe. The conclusion was unanimous: "yellow rain" is merely common pollen blown from trees.

It is at the least irresponsible to claim that poisons have been used without any hard facts to prove it, claimed C. Levinthal, biological sciences professor at Columbia University.

In 1982 President Reagan announced his decision to launch a large-scale chemical reconnaissance programme worth 10 million dollars. According to "Chemical and Engineering News", the Pentagon is over-dramatizing the "yellow rain" story to win support for the manufacture of a new generation of chemical weapons.

igor DANILIN

CIA backing for Indian separatists

Delhi. The Chief Minister of the north-eastern state of Tripura, N Chakravorty has accused the American CIA of interfering into the internal affairs of India. The American spy agency is encouraging the subversive activities of separatist gangs and supplying them with weapons and other necessities, he declared.

Addressing an audience in Calcutta, the chief minister emphas-

sized that the admissions made by Biswa Koley, the rebel chief who was recently detained by the Indian security services, confirmed that there are close links between the extremists and American intelligence. With their assistance, the United States is seeking to undermine India's stability and weaken its influence among the non-aligned states, he declared.

OFFENSIVE ON JUNGLES

Bangkok. It was impossible to stop the herd of wild elephants, they uprooted palms recently planted, trampled down rice plantations, kitchen-gardens and destroyed houses. The giant animals were infuriated. A few months before they had been frightened out of their former habitat by gun shots and the roar of helicopters. But the elephants returned.

This happened on the Sumatra Island. The inhabitants of Java, Madura and Bali moved to this and other islands of Indonesia. The first difficulties faced by the new settlers were

to wrest the land from the jungles, cultivate it and build houses. More than 90 out of 150 million Indonesians live on Java, though the territory of the island covers less than 7 per cent of the archipelago's total area. In five-year period, which ends in March 31, 1984, it was planned to resettle 5 million people to other islands. But there were fewer people who wished to move. This was revealed in Jakarta by Sutomo Sasrosuwarno, one of the leaders of the government's population and migration programme.

MONSTROUS TESTS

Ottawa. New aspects of the US Central Intelligence Agency's involvement in the monstrous medical experiments on Canadian citizens are being revealed.

As is generally known, a group of Canadians sued the US Government demanding that it pay financial compensation for the health damage caused to their health in the process of working out methods to control human behaviour. The work was carried out by the CIA in the 50s in a mental hospital in Montreal. However, during the court trial it was revealed that before starting experiments on the Montreal clinic, participated in other similar programmes for the national defence ministry of Canada. According to the

newspaper "Globe and Mail" a secret meeting of the staff members of the research department of the Canadian war ministry was held on June 1, 1951, at which an expert from the USA was also present. This meeting discussed the experiments on methods of interrogation, to be made at the psychology department laboratory of McGill University in Montreal. According to the "Globe and Mail" the CIA planted an agent in the laboratory, who reported to his bosses in detail about all experiments conducted there.

Somewhat later similar experiments began to be conducted secretly using patients of one of the mental hospitals of Montreal. As for the CIA, it actively participated in them, covering the greater part of expenses.

FROM the SOVIET PRESS

TWO WORLDS, TWO POLICIES

PRAVDA's observer V. Koronov analyses the sources and aims of the policies pursued by the Soviet Union and the United States.

In the past, an American Senator once boasted that the Lord God Almighty in his infinite wisdom had given the atomic bomb to the American people. President Harry Truman declared that he regarded this new destructive power in American hands as a godsend. This godsend first manifested itself in the inhuman destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and then became a means for achieving global imperial goals.

The policies of socialism are a sharp contrast to this gloomy background. Koronov stresses. Atomic power, in the hands of socialism has become a source of reducing war danger and preserving peace. For almost four decades Europe, the most sensitive area on this planet, has not known the horrors of war. The peoples owe this peace largely to socialism as represented by the Soviet Union which in a very short time eliminated the American nuclear monopoly and attained a military parity with imperialism. The aggressive circles across the Atlantic are doing everything possible to achieve military superiority precisely because the equilibrium achieved by socialism in the military sphere disrupts their plans.

'PERIOD OF GREAT DEPRESSION'

Yu. Kopelinsky and N. Sergeyev write in the EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA that most bourgeois economists predicted a substantial growth of the GNP in Western countries for 1983. In reality, however, the GNP grew in 1983 only by 2 per cent which, according to Western experts, is 50 per cent less than the growth needed for leading the Western economy out of the "ten-year period of great depression".

As is generally known, in 1980 industrial output in advanced capitalist countries dropped by one per cent, after which followed a rise of 0.6 per cent for a short period of time. In 1982 this figure dropped by 4 per cent. In 1983 industrial output rose by 3 per cent and so did not reach the pre-crisis level. As for the army of officially registered jobless, it grew by 11 per cent in the past year and reached 30 million as against 26 million in 1982.

POLICE CORDON

Since the time the CDU/CSU-FDP came to power, writes A. Grigoryants, IZVESTIYA's correspondent in Bonn, the practice of "ban on professions" became tougher in the Federal Republic of Germany. Disciplinary and criminal trials against democrats became more frequent, secret censorship was strengthened, the basic rights of citizens were curtailed and the system of general surveillance and shadowing improved. Special bans are provided for restricting the right to demonstrate. Surveillance of professionals has also been increased.

The sweeping wave of action against the deployment of American missiles in Western Germany — last year 6,313 registered demonstrations took place in the country — considerably alarmed the ruling circles. Therefore, they would like to surround the anti-war movement with police restrictions and bans, so as to clip its wings. Some 6.4 million people were subjected to various loyalty checks. More than 6,700 people became victims of the ban on professions. Honest and respectable people are dragged to courts, discharged or demoted.

FRANCE AND 'EUROMISSILES'

The deployment of new American nuclear missiles in Britain, Italy and West Germany has aroused much controversy in France, stresses Z. Arsenyev in the SOVIETSKAYA ROS-SIYA newspaper. Analyzing the foreign policy of the Francois Mitterrand government in this respect one cannot help noticing its contradictory nature and the heterogeneous base on which this government rests. On the one hand, France favours continued development of pan-European cooperation and has repeatedly rejected attempts by Washington and NATO to draw her into a "crusade" against socialism and an economic boycott against the USSR.

On the other hand, Paris backs the NATO decision on "rearmament" and deployment of American nuclear missiles in Western Europe. But the ordinary French are opposed to this, as the drive for peace and disarmament is increasingly gaining momentum. France, the newspaper points out. A statement by the anti-war movement Appel des Cent (The Appeal of the Hundred) joined by diverse political quarters emphasizes that the problems of war and peace are "in our hands", and that "we do not regard as inevitable either the arms race or war".

Finnish skiers off to North Pole

A group of Finnish skiers are preparing to set off on an expedition to reach the North Pole. The seven-man expedition will move off early in March. They will travel the entire route from the Canadian shores to the North Pole on skis.

For a year expedition members have taken several test runs in the northern parts of Finland. They estimate that their trek to the Pole will take more than two months. They hope to reach the Pole early in May.

a depth of up to two metres. Mr Hickley has established that 20 electronic pulses a second attract a pike, ten pulses help catch a carp and five pulses a second is the frequency for catching an eel.

A bottle museum

A short while ago, a unique museum was opened in the Spanish capital Madrid. It has the world's largest collection of bottles. There are more than ten thousand items on display; many of which are more than one hundred years old. The pride of the collection are two china bottles made by Chinese masters during the Ming Dynasty.

OF INTEREST

Electronic tackle for catching pike

A few weeks ago, British biologist Phil Hickley tested a wonderful fishing tackle which needs neither hooks, nor worms — and which are the pride of any enthusiastic angler. Phil invented a generator of electronic pulses which lure the fish and then paralyse its nerves.

All the fishermen, it has been called a fisherman, has to do is scoop the fish out with his net.

The electronic tackle works at

VIEWPOINT

THE REVERBERATIONS OF THE NEVADA BLAST

The sad news of the tragedy at the Rainier Mesa nuclear testing ground in Nevada not only aroused compassion for the 15 Americans who suffered in the recent tests there; it aroused deep anxiety around the globe.

Even though the US Department of Energy reported that the yield of the nuclear charge was no more than 20 kilotonnes, specialists at Nevada University believe the actual yield was several times that reported. Department spokesman T. Clark was noticeably vague at a press conference, claiming it would require some time to accurately determine the extent of the blast, adding that its radioactivity would be insignificant.

Shortly before the explosion the USSR Embassy in the USA sent a memo to the Department of State, "The USA Contravenes its International Obligations" noting in part that America's negative stance on disarmament

is reflected in its attitude to the 1974 and 1976 treaties on limiting underground nuclear weapons tests and on nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes, which the USA has still not ratified. Moscow also emphasized that on many occasions the USA exceeded the agreed 150 kilotonne yield limit.

The memo points out that the USSR has repeatedly approached the USA concerning radioactive fall-out outside the USA proper following underground nuclear blasts there.

Shortly before the tragedy at the Nevada testing ground "The New York Times" remarked that since the 1974 treaty bans all blasts exceeding 150 kilotonnes, including the 300-kilotonne warheads intended for the Trident-2 missile, which have been tested at Nevada were individual warhead components. In addition, the paper noted, small-scale blasts are clearly used to im-

prove elements of third-generation nuclear weapons.

It further revealed that since the Reagan administration came to power, Federal budget allocations for nuclear tests nearly doubled to reach 385 million dollars compared with 201 million in the 1981 fiscal year.

So why does the USA fail to honour its own pledges and international legal documents on saving the environment from radiation? The facts indicate that the policy of militarism and nuclear war preparations overrules common sense and rules of conduct in a nuclear age.

The USSR was the first nuclear nation to urge a halt to all nuclear tests. As early as May 1955 Moscow submitted an appropriate proposal to the UN Disarmament Committee. Even though by that time the USSR had carried out fewer tests than

the USA. Significantly, the Treaty on Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Underwater was signed in 1963 in Moscow.

The Soviet Union is now again pressing for a treaty on a complete and general ban on nuclear weapon tests, having submitted a relevant proposal to the UN way back in 1975. The USSR has also proposed a complete moratorium on all nuclear ammunition tests for a definite period of time.

The USA, however, walked out of the talks with the USSR on that issue. Moreover, it plans to boost and modernize its nuclear weapons. It also needs the tests to maintain the reliability of the warheads it already has.

In stonewalling an agreement on a complete ban on all nuclear blasts, the West is hypocritically claiming that such a ban would be hard to verify. In the meantime, researchers at the Rainier Mesa proving ground, as evidenced by the argument in the US press regarding the Nevada disaster, are looking for ways to keep any future tests there secret from geophysicists.

In the face of such honesty and fairness prevailing in the Washington corridors of power, a complete ban on all types of nuclear weapon tests is an imperative which the Soviet Union will always uphold.

Igor SINITSYN



HOME NEWS

Round the Soviet Union

● THE STATUS OF A RESORT OF ALL-UNION IMPORTANCE HAS BEEN ACQUIRED BY THE REST HOME CALLED KIROV-ZHIAN SEASIDE ON THE BANK OF LAKE ISSYK KUL IN CENTRAL ASIA. Based on a curative spa, a major sanatorium has been built there. In view of the growing interest among people in spending their holidays in the mountains, most health resorts are now open all-the-year-round, which will permit the acceptance of about one million holiday-makers a year.

● A MUSEUM OF THE BYELORUSSIAN FOLK POET, ARKADY KULESHOV, HAS OPENED IN HIS NATIVE LAND, IN THE SAMOTYCHY VILLAGE. Here one can see the poet's manuscripts and many of his works published in different languages of our country totaling more than a million and a half copies.

● A STEEL BAND THINNER THAN A HUMAN HAIR CAN BE OBTAINED IN A NEW ROLLING MILL WITH THE TRADE MARK OF THE STAROKRAMATORSKY ENGINEERING FACTORY NAMED AFTER ORDZHONIKIDZE IN THE UKRAINE. The fast assemblies of the machines have been shipped to the Kresnovsk factory of Sibelectrostal. The use of this equipment designed to produce these especially strong steel bands will save up to one million roubles a year.

● THE ENERGY OF EACH SUNNY DAY, AND IN TAJIKISTAN (CENTRAL ASIA) THERE ARE MORE THAN 300 OF THEM A YEAR, WILL BE USED TO ADVANTAGE BY THIS MOUNTAINOUS REPUBLIC. A programme for the practical utilization of solar technology has been worked out there. Under this programme the main installations of the pilot solar facilities have been set up on the outskirts of Dushanbe, capital of the republic. Plants converting solar to electrical energy will begin operating there. Two experimental houses have been built whose heating and hot water supply will be ensured by solar energy. Other solar-powered equipment will be used to cool the air when required.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

A GAIN OF JUST ONE PER CENT

Discussing the significance of labour efficiency today, POLYKARPOV SAMOBRADOVANYIY points out that while 20 years ago every one per cent increase in productivity added up to 900,000,000 roubles worth of extra industrial goods, the current figure stands at over 6,000 million.

The plans are to raise labour productivity in industry by 23 per cent in the 11th five-year plan, which will account for 90 per cent of all industrial growth to be achieved over this period. On the farms and collective farms the average annual productivity will also rise by 23 per cent, to account for the entire increase in farming output.

The planned growth in productivity will be equivalent to the saving of 17,000,000 to 20,000,000 jobs. In other words, unless the increase in efficiency comes about as envisaged, exactly as many workers will have to be drawn into production to meet the targets. But in the 1980s the increase in the workforce went down considerably compared with the second half of the 1970s, which is why higher productivity is now a major social concern, the magazine points out.

SCHOOLCHILDREN AND... THE COMPUTER

Manikind knows no field of endeavour that developed at a rate comparable with that of computer technology, writes IZVESTIA.

While the first to benefit from computers were top management, science and advanced technology, the

advent of microprocessors has brought about revolutionary changes in many fields, in fact it promises to become an extra brain to be found in every home or industrial appliance.

Microprocessors are about to considerably change the system of secondary vocational education. Absolutely new knowledge will be required from future workers about to join various industries - equipped with flexible production lines, robots and automated jobs.

The Siberian Branch of the USSR Academy of Sciences has for the ninth year running been experimenting with the use of computers at school making all its computer facilities available to schoolchildren. The best results, scientists have found, are obtainable when schoolchildren are given the chance of using computers in their daily life. This year will witness regular experimentation with computer technology involving 4- and 7-graders.

WITH FAITH IN MAN

A recent conference of translators which took place in Moscow featured men of letters who lend literature great prestige, writes Sovetskoye Dneprovskoye. Their presence is proof of the interest shown towards our literature, both classical and contemporary.

Knowing that our literature is widely read abroad, inspires us, especially when read by young people who are seeking wisdom and truth, as the letters coming from our foreign correspondents testify. However, there is a special group of readers of our literature, with interests all their own. I mean those writers, including major writers, who have been tracing the developments in our literary process most keenly. I will just name a few of them, including those who recently

passed away: Caldwell, Troyat, Saroyan, Blase, Aragon, Iwaszkiewicz, Aldridge... I have had a chance to talk to all of them and I found that behind their interest in Soviet literature was a professional understanding of all its facets. But what is the guiding element in such interest? I allow myself to believe that this is the answer: that our literature deeply penetrates man and brings him into the light for the whole world to see. There is no task more complex or necessary than this.

STUDENTS SPONSOR A FAIR

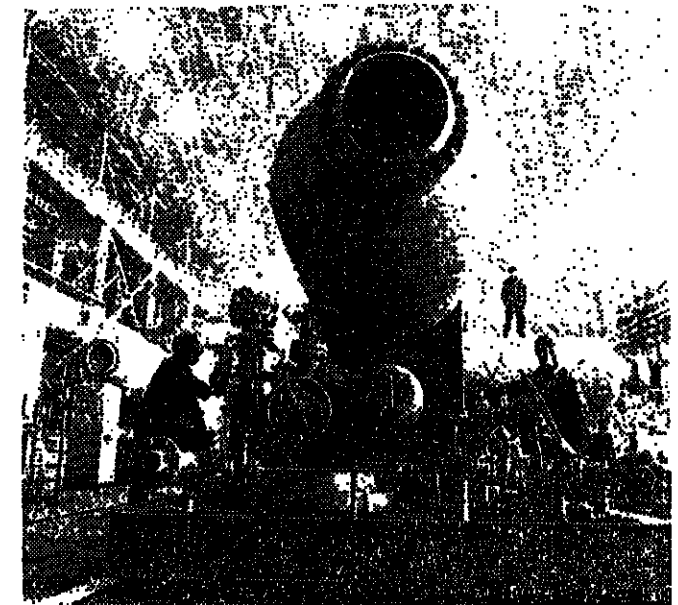
For students, their studies is their most important work. Can it be said that this work of theirs brings tangible results today? The All-Union Fair which opened in the city of Novocherkassk in the Rostov Region, in the south of Russia, for the display of designs which the students have made themselves KOMSO-MOLSKAYA PRAVDA. The invitation to take part in the fair was accepted by fifty-two institutes and universities in this country. The fair features hundreds of promising research and development works which could be of interest to many branches of the national economy. The winner at the exhibition will be the student whose design will be put to practical use sooner than this is the main prize of the fair. However, the fair has a more far-reaching significance. By taking part, they students can test their abilities, make sure that they are on the correct path in their search for technical solutions, and find others who are of like mind. The practical results will be no less tangible than all the designs gathered together at Novocherkassk. When the future of each design becomes clear, the experts will then sit together at a "round table" to discuss the prospects for research at higher schools, the newspaper concludes.

SIBERIAN GAS

Here you see a filter-separator assembly ready for sending to Siberia at a factory belonging to a machine-building amalgamation in Volgograd, which specializes in making equipment for the country's oil and gas pipelines. It is from Siberia that six super-long gas pipelines will stretch to central USSR in the 1981-85 period. Their aggregate length will exceed 20 thousand kilometres and their cost is estimated at 25,000 million roubles. The scale of gas pipeline construction in this country remains the highest in the world.

The 3,026 km long Urengoi-Centre pipeline, which will soon be completed, will become the fifth operating gas pipeline extending from Siberia to the European part of the USSR. The presently operating gas pipelines include the one delivering gas to Western Europe over a 4,431 km long pipe.

With the mileage of pipes increasing, gas production in Western Siberia also grows. In 1985



It will be responsible for 1,000,000 million cubic metres of gas daily. Plans have been developed to tap

another gas deposit, the Yamburg, which is believed to be the world's largest.

LIQUID CRYSTALS PRODUCE SURPRISES

An MNI reporter was shown an unusual glassball toy at the monocrystal research. In the laboratory in Khar'kov, the Ukraine, it glared with reddish light, but when it came into contact with the human hand, green waves ran over its surface.

The sudden changes in the colour of the ball are caused by

a film of liquid crystals, that has been made at the Institute. When the film is treated with heat its optical properties change, says V. Tishchenko, in charge of the project. A characteristic feature of crystals is their sensitivity to the magnetic field, to ultrasound, vapours of chemical compounds and other

changes in the environment, a characteristic that is already being put to good use in medicine, electronics and engineering.

What, if any, are the practical uses of such experiments in the home? Our reporter saw a glass which stayed green while the tea in it was hot; when it turned red it meant it was time to heat up the tea. Such containers would be ideal for giving drinks to children.

Bay leaves for industry

A consignment of bay leaves, the first of the season, has been shipped to the Khorzhi specialized factory in Georgia. The leaves are used to produce oil, an indispensable item in the medical, perfume, cosmetic, and food industries.

An expansion of laurel plantations is envisaged by district agroindustrial associations in the future.

At present, laurel is given in Georgia an area covering up-

wards of six thousand hectares. The most popular variety is the broad-leaved type, called "Grushinsky" which was bred in Georgia. The laurels are planted according to a new method which makes possible a twofold increase in crops and the mechanization of cultivation between rows.

This year, Georgia hopes to produce nearly eighteen tonnes of bay oil, or almost twice the amount produced last year.

NEW TYPE OF URBAN TRANSPORT

Designers from Kiev, the capital of the Soviet Ukraine, have come up with a suggestion for a new type of urban transport. They have devised an original carriage with runners attached to the carriage bottom. The runners slide noiselessly along small rubber rollers positioned on fixed axles from both sides of the road. A train of such carriages resembles a conveyor belt.

The train will have a linear motor. One of its components

Harbour increases capacity

A specialized complex for processing bulk cargo has been built at the Odessa harbour. The pneumatic loader has been put into operation there. 300 railway cars will be dispatched to Odessa daily. This is equal to about 20,000 tonnes of grain.

From the holds of motorships, grain is supplied through pipelines by means of an air pump directly to the railway cars. For pneumatic loaders can simultaneously handle two occupancies at a time.

The complex has been put into operation two months ahead of time. This will enable the port workers of Odessa to ship 150,000 tonnes of grain above the plan this year.

MORE POWERFUL BLAST FURNACE

The 7th blast furnace at the Dnepropetrovsk iron-steel plant in the Ukraine increased its capacity. With the addition of its net output of long additional coke, it will annually produce 20,000 tonnes more iron than before. This is the result of reconstruction.

The additional output will be ensured by intensifying the blasting of the charge in the furnace. The equipment of the blast furnace will also considerably help raise production efficiency.

In this five-year plan (1981-85) the metallurgical enterprises of the republic are heading toward modernization of pig-iron furnaces. The smelting of pig-iron will be considerably stepped up in the Ukraine using the achievements of science and new technology.

HOME NEWS

Places to visit



The Pötseluyev Bridge and the other 299

There are 66 rivers, canals and waterways in Leningrad, plus 42 islands united by 300 bridges (excluding railway bridges and viaducts). Bridges have long been a part of Leningrad's skyline, and without them Leningrad would look something like Egypt without its pyramids.

Peter the Great ordered that canals be dug everywhere to discharge "the surplus waters", and that these be spanned by bridges wherever appropriate.

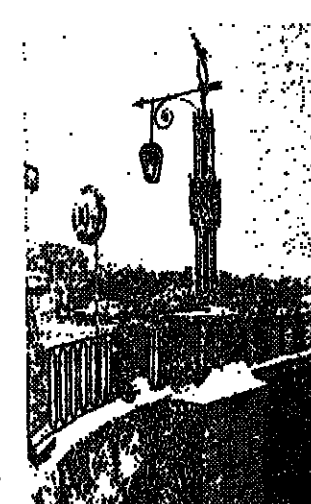
Thirty bridges in Leningrad are protected by the state—these are regarded as architectural monuments. The Anichkov Bridge is of course famous among them for its equestrian groups known as "Horse Tamers".

There is the Lion's Bridge, with the lions crouching in their teeth the chains on which the bridge is suspended. There is a bridge with

golden-winged griffins (easier believed to be gold keepers), known as the Bank Bridge. There is the Green, the Red and the Blue bridges so named for their original colour. The Blue Bridge is regarded to be the widest in the world—it is over 100 metres wide. It is often passed unnoticed as it forms part of a square before St Isaac's. In a garden near the Russian Museum there is a bridge which runs over dry land, as the canal which used to be there long ago dried up. There is even the Pötseluyev Most (Russian for Bridge of kisses).

However, the drawbridges to be seen remain as true miracles. These miracles though are well stated and automated.

The photos contributed by Boris Paltusov show girls passing a bridge over Lebyazhyi Kanav-



ka, with the Kirovsky Bridge in the background; part of a bridge near the Summer Gardens.

73 photographs of Bernard SHAW

A package containing 73 photographs of Bernard Shaw has been discovered in an old building undergoing repairs in Minsk, capital of Soviet Byelorussia. The find was handed over to the Byelorussian Museum of Literature and Art.

The photographs by "World-wide Photos" and "The Press Portrait Bureau" are accompanied by notes in English and French. Taken by an unknown photographer, they show the outstanding British playwright and publicist listening to a report by Albert Einstein, chatting with Charlie Chaplin and the sculptor Joe Davidson, and at a concert in wit at Kingsway Hall, in 1928.

The photographs are very valuable to us, said the director of the museum, Anna Surmach. Taken more than half a century ago they illustrate interesting moments in the writer's life whose books and plays are so popular with Soviet readers and theatre-goers.

Who owned the collection remains a mystery. One possibility is that it was a person who had something to do with the British writer's visit to the USSR. As is known, Bernard Shaw visited the Soviet Union in 1931, and his 75th birthday was extensively celebrated in our country. The road to Moscow passed through Byelorussia. On July 19, 1931, the British playwright was welcomed at the Negore-loye border station near Minsk by the Soviet writer, Fyodor Radkov. Together they toured the settlement and spoke with its residents.

NAMES OF ASTEROIDS

As many as 73 out of the 2,782 asteroids included in the 1984 "Ephemerides of Small Planets" yearbook have been named after the geographic landmarks of the Soviet Union.

Small planets are named after Soviet constituent republics, major cities and rivers. There are asteroids called Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, Kolkhida, Siberia, Tyumenyia, Volga and Angara.

The small planet No. 2700 is known as Balkonor, the Soviet space centre, from which Yuri Gagarin started off on the world's first space trip, in April 1961.

Asteroid No. 2250 has been named Stalingrad in commemoration of the battle of Stalingrad on the Volga River which turned the tide of the Second World War against Nazi Germany.

The first discoveries of asteroids in Russia were made in the early 20th century. At present a special team at the Crimean Astrophysics Observatory of the USSR Academy of Sciences are watching these small planets. Its leader, physicist and mathematician Nikolai Chernykh, has personally discovered more than 100 asteroids as well as two comets.

OF INTEREST

A farewell to winter

Russian Shrove-tide or Maslennitsa is a folk festival to farewell winter, which traditionally has been celebrated in Russia at the end of February and the beginning of March with merry-making and dancing from time immemorial.

Today, one may often see a doll tied to the radiator of a car at the head of a wedding cortege. As a rule, the newlyweds are presented with a large toy, such as a doll, a fluffy bear cub, or a lap-earrings Chubashka, a character from an animated cartoon, and others. This custom comes from the ancient tradition of meeting the bride and the bridegroom with a straw doll, or household Maslennitsa, which is a symbol of prosperity and healthy offspring for the newlyweds. It was displayed in the doors and windows on the day of the wedding feast when the newlyweds came to

their mother-in-law's to have pancakes.

According to ancient beliefs, Maslennitsa was believed to be giving in to spring. However, the folk tradition to arrange a pogost to send off winter has remained to this day. The characters who come together in the town of Kalingrad near Moscow to take part in the folk are mummers, skomorokh jesters, Nightingale the Highwayman and other characters from Russian legends like Kashchey the Deathless, Baba Yaga the witch, and the Beautiful Spring. Fairy-tale character Yemelya rides on top of his oven with the Mirchless Beauty. The good fellows and the beautiful girls take part in street theatre to the amusement of merry crowds.

Girls wearing pretty Russian frocks invite guests to the skills to buy their wares. Samovars are on the boil, and hot pancakes are steaming in the frying pans.

The origins of Maslennitsa are lost in antiquity. The festival is linked with the cult of the sun—hence, the pancakes,

VIEWPOINT

A new metallurgical base

Viktor VLASOV, Cand. Sc. (Economics)

Do we need an iron-and-steel industry base east of Lake Balkash? Two or three decades ago, this question was usually answered in the negative. The small needs of the region in metal—slightly less than one million tonnes a year—were fully met by the output from two small mills, one in the Chita Region and the other in the Khabarovsk Territory, and by the metal brought from the west of the Soviet Union.

The situation began to change over the past ten to fifteen years, when intense development of eastern parts of this country began. The almost 3,200 kilometres Baikal-Amur Railway brings to life a huge, 1.6-million-square-kilometre territory in Eastern Siberia and the Far East rich in coal, iron-ore, non-ferrous and rare metals, gas and other mineral resources. Several industrial complexes are to be established there to permit the full use of the natural wealth of the region at the least expense possible. The first of them, the South Yakutsk, is already under construction.

In the Far Eastern Economic Region, which includes the south of the Yakutsk Autonomous Republic, the Amur Region and the Khabarovsk Territory, more than twenty iron-ore deposits have been discovered. The largest iron-ore reserve is believed to be concentrated in the Aldan iron-ore province in the south of Yakutia. Its reserves are estimated to be 20-25 thousand million tonnes. The South Aldan and Chero-Tokkin regions have been prospected in detail. Either of these can serve as a raw material base for the establishment of a new centre of iron-and-steel industry in the Eastern Soviet Union.

The South Aldan Region is in the most advantageous position, lying only 80-100 kilometres from the South Yakutsk coal field with estimated reserves of more than 40,000 million tonnes of coal. Here, the Neryungyul coal field is already being developed.

Such favourable conditions as the unique proximity between the iron-ore and the coal field, the fluxes, refractory materials, moulding sands and other auxiliary raw materials extracted close at hand, and the vicinity of the Lena-Vilyuy gas-bearing provinces make South Yakutia the most reliable raw material base for the Far Eastern iron-and-steel industry. In time, the Soviet Union will have a powerful base for heavy industry in this region, the biggest in the country after Donbass, the Urals, and Kuzbass.

The experts, who know the region well, also suggest the construction of only one main mill to produce iron and steel in South Yakutia in the immediate vicinity of the iron-ore and coal deposits. They also suggest that rolling mills be built in the western and eastern sections of the Baikal-Amur Railway in places more suitable for human habitation, linked with the main lines by railway. Such distribution of industries in the Far Eastern Metallurgical Complex will considerably reduce transportation costs, and when it starts to produce nine million tonnes of steel a year, it will supply metal not only to the Far East, but also to Siberia.

Handwritten notes in the right margin, including the word "судит" (judges) and some illegible text.

Theatre, Cinema and TV Stars

ARMEN
DZHIGARKHANYAN

On looking through old playbills and film posters or radio and TV programmes one is sure to find the name of Armen Dzhigarkhanyan, one of the most popular film and theatre stars. It is true that he happily participates in various genres of art, but his only real love, as he admits himself, has been and continues to be the theatre.

Dzhigarkhanyan began his career in his native republic of Armenia. He studied at the Yerevan art and theatrical institute and worked at the Russian Stanislavsky Theatre. After moving to Moscow he worked at the Leninsky Komsovol Theatre, then at the Mayakovsky Theatre, where he is working still.

In 30 years of life devoted to theatre he has played characters from the world's great classical plays as well as modern Soviet and foreign plays. His characters are diverse: Levinson, a Civil War commissar, from the play based on Alexander Fadeyev's novel "The Rout"; general Khudov from Mikhail Bulgakov's play "Flight"; the Shakespearean Richard III and Bulgakov's

Molier; Stanley Kowalski from the play "A Streetcar Named Desire" by Tennessee Williams; Socrates from the play "Conversations With Socrates" by Soviet playwright Eduard Radzinsky. Socrates is one of the actor's favourite and most complicated roles, suggested by the playwright in the form of a conversation with the audience—a form of meditative theatre. He is now rehearsing together with the director of the theatre, Andrei Goncharov, a new role from a work by Radzinsky—Nero in the play "Theatre in the Time of Nero and Seneca". It is not so simple to explain the existence in history of these two opposing personalities—the tyrant and assassin Nero and the humanist Seneca. This is the task facing the director. As for Dzhigarkhanyan, he is fond of solving complicated problems in art.

The actor has played more than 70 film roles. He can be ranked among the representatives of the so-called "author's" cinema. But at the same time he never ventures to build the character of his hero coincidentally with the human qualities inherent in the actor.

Not all the films of Dzhigarkhanyan are equally good. But this cannot be achieved when he plays such a great number of parts. Sometimes actors hear reproaches from audiences to the effect that in chasing after a new part they are not always discriminating. I believe this is pretty much up to the individual—some actors relegate themselves to only working in the theatre. For others permanent work in films, TV and radio is quite normal. It mobilizes the actor, gives him strength and sharpens his mind. Take away from him all this for long periods and the actor will simply go stale.

This is exactly how Armen Dzhigarkhanyan works. He takes each new role as an opportunity to make a new step forward in his profession and to obtain new experience as an actor and a human being. Of course, along this road the actor faces not only successes but also failures and mistakes but, as the saying goes, only he who does no work, will make no mistakes.

Natalya KUROVA

VERSES OF COURAGE AND FRIENDSHIP

An edition of the selected works of Nikola Vaptsarov, a well-known Bulgarian revolutionary poet, entitled "Songs About Man", has been published in Lithuania. It is translated by Eduardas Miezelaitis, poet and Lenin Prize winner.

The two poets have many points in common. Vaptsarov

was one of the organizers of the anti-fascist struggle in Bulgaria. He joined the revolutionary movement as a boy. Miezelaitis, too, fought against the Nazi occupiers. In 1979, Miezelaitis, whose poetry is distinguished by its patriotism and civic approach, was awarded the international Nikola Vaptsarov literary prize.

Vaptsarov's valiant lyric poetry (he was killed by the fascists) is close to my heart, says Miezelaitis. I feel it is a great honour to be offered a prize named after him. And I take great pleasure in acquainting Lithuanian readers with the wonderful verses written by this courageous son of the Bulgarian people.

NEW THEATRE FOR 'EXPERIMENT'

A new theatre is awaiting "Experiment", one of the newest theatrical companies in Leningrad. The company, which specializes in one-act plays, will soon move to Leo Tolstoy Square. Its new house, which formerly belonged to the "Ars" cinema, is being rebuilt taking into account the requirements imposed by the "Experiment" company, each of whose plays

achieves special contact between actors and audience. Before each play begins, the audience will be able to view exhibitions in the lobby. Above the small stage there will be galleries and small balconies for the actors' use, which will give more leeway to the art directors. The usual stage curtain has been supplemented by spotlights for the same purpose.

More often than not, there will be nothing to separate the stage from the auditorium whose seats will be arranged in a semi-circle. Famous Uraltian masters from the towns of Kasli and Kusa are busy making cast-iron decorations, such as grilles, wall chandeliers, and mirrors which have been ordered by the company.



The Central Artists Club on the Krymskaya Embankment in Moscow has opened an exhibition, "The Art of Soviet Latvia". This is the first large and representative exhibition from Latvia to be held in this city. Visitors will have the opportunity of seeing 750 works of art by 230 artists. There are paintings, graphic prints, items of decorative and applied art, water colours and posters. Most of them have been made over the past decade. This is the first exhibition of a series of displays from constituent republics which are a group of foreign diplomats were shown around the exhibition. ● Leo Sveinso, "Riga", ● Maja Dragane, "The Mountain Pass".

SHOLEM ALEICHEM ANNIVERSARY

What's the use of novels when life itself is a novel, once said a writer who entered world literature under the name of Sholem Aleichem which is Yiddish for "peace to you". This is the pen-name of Solomon Rabinovich born 125 years ago in the old Ukrainian town of Pereyaslav-Khmelnytsky. Having left the local Russian district school, Sholem earned his living by giving private lessons. The young teacher was an enthusiastic reader of the works of Pushkin, Gogol, Mark Twain, Dickens, Nekrasov, Chekhov, Mendele Mikhler Selarim—the founder of the new Jewish literature. He also loved Shevchenko and Dostoyevsky.

Right from the word go, Sholem Aleichem's writing was democratic in outlook and until the last days of his life he remained faithful to what Maxim Gorky called a rare feeling of "kind wise love for the people".

His sparkling humour and laughter made people happy, though in the gloomy years of tsarism there was little to rejoice about. Sholem Aleichem writes about poor workers, children, national talent; he chastises township nobility and money-bags. His popularity grew at unprecedented rates.

Sholem Aleichem's career as

a writer was far from an easy one. Advocating truth, peace, and friendship among nations, he aroused malicious attacks by nationalists of all shades. There are over 30 volumes of his works. His long and rich stories, novels, and pamphlets have not aged; they combine to live and excite people up to this day.

In Soviet years Sholem Aleichem's books have been published 542 times in 24 languages of the peoples of the USSR and the world (they came out 15 times—in the original, in 10 editions of over 85 million copies).

The 125th anniversary of the writer's birth is being celebrated in Moscow, Kiev and other Soviet cities. The Dnepropetrovsk Publishers have just brought out an edition of writer's selected works in the Ukrainian language. An exhibition of his books is on display in the Sholem Aleichem museum in his native city of Pereyaslav-Khmelnytsky. A memorial plaque in memory of this great Jewish writer will be unveiled in one of the most beautiful squares of the town.

Galina POLYANKINA, a writer



A new film, "The Mystery of Black Birds" based on a detective story by Agatha Christie, "A Pocket Full of Rye", can now be seen at cinemas in Moscow. The authors of the film have managed to preserve the local colour and humour characteristic of the best stories and novels by this English author. The only minor change made to the original text is that the action has been laid in the present day.

Still from the film.

WHAT'S ON?

February 28-March 2

THEATRES

Bolshoi Theatre (Sverdlov Sq.). 28—Rimsky-Korsakov, "The Legend of the Invisible City of Kitezh" (opera). 2—Tchaikovsky, "The Sleeping Beauty" (ballet).

Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinskaya St.). 29—Strauss, "Der Zigeunerbaron" (operetta). 1—Verdi, "La Battaglia di Legnano" (opera). 2—Sidenikov, "Stepan Razin" (ballet).

Opera Theatre (6 Pushkinskaya St.). 28—Kalmann, "The Gypsy Princess". 29—Kalmann, "Evening Visitors". 1—Lohse, "The Merry Widow". 2 (at 10 p.m.)—Suppe, "Die Schöne Galathea".

FILMS

Made for Each Other (India. 2 parts).

A melodrama about a love-story of a young man and a girl belonging to different castes.

CONCERT HALLS

Central Concert Hall (1 Moskovskaya St.). 28—The Rossiya Hotel. 28, 29—"Happy Day", a revue, performed by Leningrad Music Hall.

Variety Theatre (20/21 Senatskaya Embankment). 28, 29—Even a Cat Appreciates a Kind Word, a variety performance.

Grand Concert Hall at the Olympic Village. 28—"Favor", 29—"The Majesty of Theatre", performances by the Leningrad Theatre of Miniatures led by Arkady Raikin.

Metronex's trade and technical centre

This new centre set up by the Polish foreign trade enterprise, Metronex, opened in Moscow just a few days ago.

Metronex has been cooperating with Soviet foreign trade organizations for two decades. Over these years, the volume of trade has grown 27 times, as was the range of goods delivered. Cooperation has expanded, and technical collaboration with a number of ministries as well as research and training centres has become more profound.

The Polish enterprise exports computer technology, quality control and measuring instruments, all sorts of equipment and collapsible pavilions.

In turn, it buys from the Soviet Union computers of various designs, cash registers, and electrical measuring instruments.

In 1988, it opened its representation office in Moscow. The considerable growth in mutual trade, and scientific and technical links has brought about a need to set up a new centre. Here one can obtain any kind of service involved in the use of Polish technology, get the necessary spares, do everything to ensure that the goods produced by Metronex operate at full capacity. The specialists coming here will exchange experience, have consultations, receive information and provide training.

The centre will display a permanent exhibition of new products and processes.

Plans are underway to open up a computer centre here this year.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER
IN FOUR YEARS OF EXISTENCE

Nikolai Stegov, general director of V/O Sovcenter of the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry, recently talked to Soviet journalists at the Center for International Trade and Scientific and Technological Relations with Foreign Countries. He noted that since it started in 1980 the Center has held

nearly 350 major events—six in 1980, 60 in 1981, 95 in 1982 and 135 last year.

This year 16 major events will be held, among them an International Zoological Congress, a Congress of Biochemical Societies which will draw between 3,000 and 3,500 foreign delegates alone.

CHINAR EXPORTS
ON THE SOVIET MARKET

In January 1984, Chinara Export PVT Ltd. was the first of India's private firms to be accredited to the Ministry of Foreign Trade in Moscow. Before long, it will have a representative office here, an INVI correspondent has been told by Sukhraj S. Anand, representative of this trading house. Since its very foundation, the firm set up close contacts with representatives of Soviet foreign trade organizations.

The firm has delivered to this country goods such as spectacle frames, chemicals for dentistry, and other similar items. However, the firm not only deals in exports. At present, it is holding

talks with officials of the Soviet foreign trade association Avtoexport about deliveries of Soviet-made KamAZ trucks to India. In India, Chinara Exports serves as an intermediary for the Merchandising Company for the sale of stamps.

During all its years of cooperation with the Soviet Union, Chinara Exports had its biggest volume of trade with the USSR in 1982-83 worth 29 million rubles. At the international exhibition, "Hospital-84" where the firm displayed its goods, an interesting new item was introduced. This was an American-made spectacle frame from the Hudson Optical Corp. These can be supplied through the Indian firm to the Soviet market. The firm will import components for the frames from the United States, assemble them in India and then deliver them to the Soviet Union.

Exhibition of Swedish
Literature in Latvia

In the Museum of the History of City and Marine Navigation in the Latvian capital Riga, an exhibition of Swedish literature has been held. The exhibition was organized by the General Directorate of the International Book Exhibitions and Fairs at the USSR State Committee for Publishing, Printing and Book Distribution jointly with the Swedish firm of Carlbeck-Isakalo.

The exhibitors displayed 400 works of fiction, popular science, books for children and reference publications. The books exhibited in Riga included works by the poet and prose writer, Lars Gustafson, the dramatist, Jan Myrdal, the young writer, T. Lindgren, prose writer P. O. Enquist, and many others.

In one hour, an Antonov-24 plane will deliver the visitors from Ashkhabad to Mary, a regional capital in the Turkmen republic. From there, the tourists will take a boat as far as the Karakum Canal, a man-made river which flows across one of the largest deserts in the world often described as the second Sahara.

After a visit to the Karakum Canal state farm, they will take a bus to the ancient city of Merv in the Murgab valley. The city has a rich and stormy history. It was most prosperous in the 11th-12th centuries when it straddled the crossroads of busy trade routes and sold artefacts to many other countries made by its numerous craftsmen—jewellers, potters, smiths, armourers and carpet-makers. Biscuits, raisins, cotton and silk, were also sold.

The city was widely known as an outstanding centre of science and culture with its numerous libraries, madrasahs, and an observatory. The largest of its libraries housed 120 thousand books. In the 11th century, the poet Omar Khayyam worked in the Merv Observatory. The famous people who lived in the city include Hasan Gaznevi and scientist and poet Enveri, while the 12th-century historian, Semant was born here.

SHOE SHOW
MEETS WITH SUCCESS

The US-Soviet Trade and Economic Council, in Moscow, recently hosted a two-day show sponsored by the West German companies united in IGS—Interest Group Shoe Components. They displayed high fashion, daily, children's and sports shoes.

Mr Kurt O. John, a company

owner, said this to our correspondent:

The IGS is not a newcomer to Moscow. Last October we introduced Soviet specialists to our products and were invited to come again. We expect that some contracts be signed, specifically with Soyuzpushchina, the USSR Ministry for Light Industry, and Vnesheimportorg.

Intourist
newsNew route
across
Turkmenia

For those guests who intend to visit the Turkmen capital Ashkhabad this year Intourist is offering a new and interesting route—a one-day tour of the town of Mary and the Mary Region.

In one hour, an Antonov-24 plane will deliver the visitors from Ashkhabad to Mary, a regional capital in the Turkmen republic. From there, the tourists will take a boat as far as the Karakum Canal, a man-made river which flows across one of the largest deserts in the world often described as the second Sahara.

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The city is centered on Erk Kala, " Citadel Fortress" built in the sixth century B.C. Among Merv's architectural monuments the most outstanding is the Mausoleum of Ibn-Zaid's Mausoleum (1112-1113 A.D.), an inspiring piece of medieval architecture which serves as a splendid example of the artistic use of brick. Another monument which deserves a visit is the Mausoleum of Sultan Sanjar (12th century), which is one of Merv's most famous architectural monuments. In 1923, the medieval architectural monuments of Merv were placed under the protection and guardianship of the state. Restoration and research is being carried out as a result of this move.

The trip by foreign tourists, includes a visit to the resort Baltram-Ali situated in an oasis formed by the Murgab River in the middle of the Karakum Desert. The resort receives guests all year round. Its patients are treated for diseases of the circulatory system and for infectious diseases of the kidneys. The climate at Baltram-Ali with its dry air and high temperatures has a favourable effect on the patients' organism. The Baltram-Ali sanatorium is widely known not only in this country, but also abroad.

Boris BOROVIN

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